

JOINT TASK FORCE - FULL ACCOUNTING
BIOGRAPHIC/SITE REPORT AS OF 20 JANUARY 1994

===== BIOGRAPHIC INFORMATION =====

REFNO: 0984-0-01 (ACCNO 0045) Status: (8) DEAD BODY NOT RECOVERED
Name: COHRON, JAMES DERWIN Date Status assigned: 5 Jul 1978

Nationality	AMERICAN	Race	CAUCASIAN	Blood Chit	\$
Service	ARMY	Sex	MALE	Blood type	O +
Grade	E6	Hair	BROWN	Complexion	FAIR
SSAN	DATA	Eyes	BLUE	Weapon	#
Serial No	55755779	Height	68 in / 1.73 mtrs	Weapon No	#
Birth date	11 Nov 1938	Weight	165 lb / 74.7 kg	Duty pos	RIFLEMAN
Home State	IOWA	Religion	PROTESTANT	PW Camp	\$

===== SITE INFORMATION =====

INCIDENT LOCATION (0)

Site Type: GROUND SITE
UTM: 48QXD929208
Lat/Long: 162745N / 1064826E
Country: LAOS
Military Region: 4
Mission Province: SALAVAN
(formerly): SAVANNAKHET
Mission District: SAMOUY
Mission Date: 12 Jan 1968
Mission Category: 3
Local Analysis: Remote area.

===== JTF-FA ACTIVITY SUMMARY =====

Folders Passed: May 93, Jun 92, Jul 90, Feb 90
Vessey Case: THREE
Case type: DISCREPANCY

===== VEHICLE DATA =====

Vehicle Type: GRND	Serial: \$
Crash Type: None	Engine Type: \$
Call Sign: \$	1 Serial: \$
Year: \$	2 Serial: \$

===== SPECIAL CHARACTER KEY =====

= Item has been researched but data cannot be obtained.
\$ = Item is not applicable to this case.
@ or Blank = Data for item is unknown or not available.

CASE: 0984

=== CIRCUMSTANCES OF LOSS ===

13 February 1976

AT ABOUT 1300 HOURS ON 12 JANUARY 1968 SSG JAMES D. COHRON WAS A MEMBER OF A RECONNAISSANCE TEAM ON A COMBAT MISSION IN LAOS. WHILE MOVING TOWARD THEIR OBJECTIVE, WITH SSG COHRON THE NEXT TO LAST MAN IN THE REAR OF THE TEAM'S FORMATION, THEY WERE AMBUSHED BY AN UNKNOWN-SIZE ENEMY FORCE. THE INITIAL INTENSIVE FIRE AND GRENADES WERE RECEIVED FROM THE DIRECTION NEAREST SSG COHRON. THE TEAM INITIATED ACTION FOR BREAKING CONTACT, AND MOVED TOWARD A PREDETERMINED RALLY POINT WITH THE ENEMY IN PURSUIT.

A DEFENSIVE PERIMETER WAS SET UP FOR THEIR LANDING ZONE, AT WHICH TIME A HEADCOUNT WAS MADE, AND SSG COHRON AND TWO INDIGENOUS MEN WERE DETERMINED TO BE MISSING. AIR SUPPORT WAS REQUESTED AND NOTIFIED TO BE ALERT FOR SIGNALS OR MOVEMENT FROM ANY OF THE MISSING TEAM MEMBERS. HOWEVER, NO REPORTS WERE RECEIVED. AFTER THE AIR SUPPORT CONTACT WITH THE ENEMY WAS BROKEN, THE REMAINDER OF THE TEAM WAS EXTRACTED.

TWO DAYS LATER A SEARCH ELEMENT REACHED THE AMBUSH SITE AND CONDUCTED AN EXTENSIVE SEARCH. A SMALL SPLATTER OF BLOOD IN THE AREA WHERE ONE OF THE GRENADES HAD IMPACTED WAS FOUND. THE FOLLOWING MORNING A PATROL LOCATED THE FOOD RATION OF SSG COHRON WHICH WAS IDENTIFIED BY THE EMPTY CIGARETTE PACK. SEARCH EFFORTS WERE TERMINATED WITHOUT SUCCESS. THE LAST CONTACT WITH SSG COHRON WAS IN THE VICINITY OF GRID COORDINATES XD 929 208. (REF 1 & 2)

DURING THE EXISTENCE OF JCRC, THE HOSTILE THREAT IN THE AREA PRECLUDED ANY VISITS TO OR GROUND INSPECTIONS OF THE SITES INVOLVED IN THIS CASE. THIS INDIVIDUAL'S NAME AND IDENTIFYING DATA WERE TURNED OVER TO THE FOUR-PARTY JOINT MILITARY TEAM WITH A REQUEST FOR ANY INFORMATION AVAILABLE. NO RESPONSE WAS FORTHCOMING. SSG COHRON IS CURRENTLY CARRIED IN THE PRESUMPTIVE STATUS OF DEAD, BODY NOT RECOVERED.

=== REFERENCES ===

13 February 1976

REFERENCES: <1> RPT , HQ FOB #1, 5TH SFG ABN, 1ST SF, W/ENCLOSURES, 26 JAN 68. <2> LOG 5TH SFG ABN, 1ST SF (PHU DUNG CASUALTIES) UNDATED.
<3> LPDR CHART E-48 1987 EDITION. <4> AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE 230754Z DEC 93.

=== NEGOTIATION ACTIONS ===

20 September 1989

A CASE NARRATIVE PERTAINING TO ALL INDIVIDUALS WAS PASSED BY JCRC TO

CASE: 0984

THE VNOSMP DURING THE 28 - 30 AUGUST 1989 TECHNICAL MEETING IN HANOI.

8 December 1989

DURING THE 29 - 30 OCT 89 MEETING IN HANOI, GEN VESSEY PASSED A NARRATIVE ON THIS CASE TO VIETNAMESE FOREIGN MINISTER NGUYEN CO THACH.

DURING THE 1 - 3 NOVEMBER 89 MEETING IN VIENTIANE, LAOS, USDAS LAMBERTSON PASSED A NARRATIVE ON THIS CASE TO LPDR GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS.

5 March 1990

A CASE NARRATIVE WAS PASSED TO THE LAO DURING THE 1 - 2 FEB 90 CONSULTATIVE MEETING IN VIENTIANE.

8 August 1990

A CASE NARRATIVE WAS PASSED TO THE VNOSMP DURING THE 10-12 JUL 90 TECHNICAL MEETING IN HANOI.

24 May 1993

CASE NARRATIVE FOR CASE '0984 WAS PASSED TO REPRESENTATIVES OF THE VIETNAMESE AND LAO GOVERNMENTS DURING THE 6-7 MAY 1993 POW/MIA TRILATERAL TECHNICAL MEETING IN HANOI.

=== MAJOR COORDINATE CHANGE ===

14 September 1993

PROVINCE/DISTRICT CHANGED FROM SAVANNAKHET/NONG TO SALAVAN/SAMOUAY BASED ON PLOT OF INCIDENT LOCATION ON CURRENT LAO CHARTS. (REF 3)

=== JOINT INVESTIGATION, SURVEY OR EXCAVATION ===

14 January 1994

ON 10 DEC 93, IE1 INVESTIGATED CASE 0984 IN SAMOUY DISTRICT, SALAVAN PROVINCE. THE TEAM INTERVIEWED RESIDENTS OF THE TWO CLOSEST VILLAGES TO THE INCIDENT AREA. RESIDENTS HAD NO INFORMATION RELEVANT TO THE CASE. THE TEAM THEN CONDUCTED A GROUND SEARCH AT AND AROUND THE RECORD LOCATION FOR THE INCIDENT. NO EVIDENCE, BIOLOGICAL OR OTHERWISE, WAS FOUND. (REF 4)

JOINT TASK FORCE - FULL ACCOUNTING
BIOGRAPHIC/SITE REPORT AS OF 28 MARCH 1994

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